

Department of Environmental Protection

McGilpin Road in Sturbridge Project Update for the Week of July 31, 2017

Residential Sampling

MassDEP completed its third round of residential sampling on McGilpin Road in June. All sampling results have been received and the final resident notifications were mailed this week (MassDEP does not normally post the data before providing it to the respective property owners). MassDEP expects to post the final sampling results next week (week of 8/7). We are continuing to review the data in conjunction with the other data from the direct well sampling.

Direct Well Sampling

MassDEP completed direct well sampling at selected homes on McGilpin Road in June. All sampling results have been received and the final resident notifications were mailed this week. MassDEP expects to post the final sampling results next week (week of 8/7). We are continuing to review all of the data together.

Installation of Monitoring Wells

MassDEP activated a statewide contract this week for contractor services to assist with conducting geophysical investigations in preparation for the installation of monitoring wells at locations between the Southbridge Landfill and McGilpin Road, including on property owned by Southbridge Recycling and Disposal Park (SRDP). Responses from contractors are due August 9, 2017. We have had to adjust the schedule for subsurface investigation to begin in early fall, rather than late July because of the inaccessibility of some of the potential locations.

Surface Water and Sediment Sampling

DEP conducted additional surface water and sediment sampling in and around the Southbridge Landfill and McKinstry Brook the week of July 24th. We expect to have the results next week (week of 8/7) and will post them as soon as they are available.

Review of other potential sources

No additional update. MassDEP has identified other properties that may warrant additional investigation. Specifically, two parcels on McGilpin Road have been described as old junkyards or as having buried debris. To date, MassDEP has conducted surficial investigations, including a magnetometer survey and ground penetrating radar survey at one property. MassDEP will continue to evaluate if further investigation of these parcels is needed, as additional information is collected and reviewed.